

Appendix 2: Code of Conduct Complaints Activity

6 March 2023 – 31 May 2023

Ref	Date Received	Council	Complainant type	Summary of Allegation(s)	Breach type	Decision Notice	Outcome/Status
COM 393 COM 397	5-April-22 19-April-22	Town	Officer	That the Subject Member has, in emails and on social media, been disrespectful towards fellow Councillors and an Officer of the Council.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect Bullying Failing to follow procedure / policy (member officer protocol) 	6-June-22	Ongoing – Referred for investigation
COM 413	12-Dec-22	Parish	Member	Various allegations including: GDPR breaches Bullying Failure to engage in Decision Notice recommendations Failing to disclose interests Failure to follow tendering processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All aspects of the code of conduct 	6-April-22	No Further Action The Habitual and Vexatious complaints policy has been applied to the Complainants
FS-Case-479253074	18-Jan-23	Parish	Member	Members have given false statements during a Parish Council Meeting. Members have approved a contract on behalf of a landowner.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Championing the needs of residents Dealing with enquiries fairly, appropriately, and impartially. Not allowing pressures to deter them from pursuing the interests of the Council or the good governance of the Council in a proper manner Exercise independent judgement Be accountable for decisions Contribute to making the decision process as open and transparent as possible. 		Ongoing To be dealt with as a collective. The opinion of an independent person shall be sought.
FS-Case-479484178	18-Jan-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-480006325	18/01/2023	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-479665269	18-Jan-23	Parish	Public				
FS-Case-480451746	19-Jan-23	Parish	Public				

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					<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Behave in accordance to legal obligations and that of the Council. Treat people with respect. Failure to disclose interests 		
FS-Case-482384231	30-Jan-23	Parish	Member				
Com 414	8-Feb-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-500269838	23-Mar-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-500989086	27-Mar-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-501015260	27-Mar-23	Parish	Member				
FS-Case-485616401	09-Feb-23	County	Officer	The Complainant is a Council Officer. The Member has disclosed confidential information on social media.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disclosing confidential information Bringing role of Member of Local Authority into disrepute. 	16-Mar-23	Local Resolution Member Code of Conduct training focusing on the confidentiality requirement and legal responsibilities in respect of exempt information.

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Com 415	15-Mar-23	Parish	Officer	Accusations of bullying	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect Bullying and Harassment Value colleagues 	17/05/2023	Referred for investigation
Com 416	02-Mar-23	Parish	Public	Recording Minutes incorrectly Not communicating with residents Withholding information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dealing with resident enquiries Respect 	28/03/2023	No Further Action
COM 417	23-Mar-23	County	Unknown	The complaint was made anonymously through the post regarding Member's occupation.	N/A	N/A	Rejected- Not acting in capacity as a member.
FS-Case-505549532	05-April-23	County	Officer	The complaint raises concern about the subject member's alleged ill treatment of staff and bullying and harassment of Council Officers. The complaint also details concerns about your alleged use of social media and the Press to unfairly criticise officers and make inaccurate and inflammatory statements about the Council, Officers of the Council and the Council's Area Action Partnerships. Additionally, the complaint includes the alleged failure to adhere to the Member-Officer Relations Protocol	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Failure to act in accordance with Member-Officer Relations Protocol Respect Bullying 		Ongoing, To be dealt with in conjunction with FS-Case-511445732. This Complaint is being overseen by the Deputy Monitoring Officer.
FS-Case-505646770	06-April-23	Town	Officer	The subject member has incorrectly handled a staffing issue relating to absence. The complainant has shown a lack of respect for Officers.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Respect Seeking to confer an advantage or disadvantage Bullying 		Ongoing

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FS-Case-505932784	07-April-23	Parish	Unknown	The complaint alleges that the subject member is acting as a sole member of the Parish Councillor and is not involving the other Councillors of their decisions. The Councillor is also acting as the Clerk and Chief Financial Officer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Acting in the Public Interest - Open and Transparency in decision making - Respect 	N/A	To be treated as withdrawn. Upon contacting the Subject Member, we were informed that the complaint was not submitted by the Complainant who has been named on the form. The named person confirmed in writing that they did not submit the complaint.
COM 418	24-Apr-23	County	Public	The complaint alleges that the subject member has been using his position as a Councillor to interfere with a member of the public's business. The subject member is being accused of using his position as a Councillor to bully and harass a member of the public and their partner. The Subject Member video called the member of the public to intimidate her into speaking to her husband about an ongoing conflict between him and the subject member.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respect - Acting in accordance with legal obligations - Bullying and Harassment - Seeking to confer an advantage/disadvantage. 		Ongoing
FS-Case-511445732	28-Apr-23	County	Officer	The complaint relates to comments made by the two Subject Members in an Article published in the Northern Echo. The Subject Members criticised the Council and Council Officers, with the article stating the Subject Members "have launched a scathing attack on non-elected officers at Durham County Council".	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Act in accordance with Member Officer Relations Protocol - Respect - Acting in accordance with legal obligations 		<p>Ongoing, To be dealt with in conjunction with FS-Case-505549532.</p> <p>This Complaint is being overseen by the Deputy Monitoring Officer.</p>

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FS-Case-511652546	29-Apr-23	Parish	Cllr	Allegations that the Subject Members carried out works on a public pathway without authority and against advice of DCC. A physical altercation is alleged to have taken place between one Subject Member and the Complainant.	- All elements of the Code of Conduct		Ongoing, To be dealt with under a collective decision
FS-Case-511798693	30-Apr-23	Parish	Cllr	Counter-complaint for FS-Case-511652546 concerning bullying and harassment.			
FS-Case-512967377	04-May-23	County	Cllr	The complaint alleges that the subject member shared information prior to it being published in the public domain, which was against the express instruction of the HoLDS.	- Confidentiality		Ongoing
COM 419	04-May-23	Town	Public	An advertisement was placed in a Town Council newspaper which the complainant believes to have political affiliation, which is contrary to requirements under the Local Government Act 1986.	- Acting in accordance with legal obligations		Ongoing
COM 420	28-Apr-23	Town	Town Council Staff	Accusations of bullying	- Bullying - Respect - Conferring an advantage or disadvantage		Ongoing
FS-Case-514139036	09-May-23	County	Cllr	The Subject Member has made comments of a discriminatory nature on a Facebook group.	- Respect - Bringing the Role of Member or Local Authority into disrepute. - Acting in accordance with legal obligations	25/05/2023	Referred to a Standards Hearing.

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Com 421	10-May-23	Parish	Clerk on behalf of the PC	The Subject Member has disclosed a potential data breach as a non-member of the Parish Council manages his email account for him.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disclosing Confidential Information - Bullying and harassment - Respect - 		Ongoing
FS-Case-516195548	16-May-23	Town	Public	The Subject Member is alleged to be using her position as a Councillor to give her son information about the Complainant and is attempting to intimidate him online.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Disclosing Confidential Information - Conferring an advantage or disadvantage - Bullying and harassment 	N/A	Rejected – Not in capacity
COM 422	22-May-23	Parish	Cllr	The Subject Member is alleged to have been spreading malicious rumours	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Respect - Confidentiality 		Ongoing